



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

23455 Novi Road
Novi MI 48375
Pastor: Dr. James N. McGuire
248-719-7787

Welcome to Worship

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

† **Gathering Hymn: Come, Let Us Praise the Lord**

† **Call to Worship** (Psalm 95:1-7 NRSV)

Pastor: O come, let us sing to the LORD, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

People: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Pastor: For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

People: In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.

Pastor: The sea is his, for he made it; and the dry land which his hands have formed.

Unison: O come let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

† **Hymn: The Lord's My Shepherd**

† **Invocation and the Lord's Prayer**

First Scripture Readings

(Reader: Bruce Terras)

Exodus 14:19-31 Responsive

¹⁹Then the angel of God, who had been traveling in front of Israel's army, withdrew and went behind them. The pillar of cloud also moved from in front and stood behind them, ²⁰coming between the armies of Egypt and Israel. Throughout the night the cloud brought darkness to the one side and light to the other side; so neither went near the other all night long.

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, ²²and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

²³The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea. ²⁴During the last watch of the night the LORD looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. ²⁵He jammed the wheels of their chariots so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites! The LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

²⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen." ²⁷Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward it, and the LORD swept them into the sea. ²⁸The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen—the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived.

²⁹But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. ³⁰That day the LORD saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore.

³¹And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant.

Genesis 50:15-21 Responsive

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?"

¹⁶So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: ¹⁷'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father."

When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

¹⁸His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said.

¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children."

And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

† Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.

† Hymn: Blessed Assurance

Offertory	Presentation of Tithes and Offerings	
	Guest Pianist	Linda Johnson
	Prayer of Thanksgiving	

† Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Second Scripture Readings

(Reader: Bruce Terras)

Matthew 18:21-35 Responsive

²¹Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

²²**Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.**

²³"Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶**"At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.'** ²⁷**The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.**

²⁸"But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

²⁹**"His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'**

³⁰“But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³²**“Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ ³⁴In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.**

³⁵“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Romans 14:1-12 Responsive

¹Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters. ²One person’s faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. ³The one who eats everything must not treat with contempt the one who does not, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted them.

⁴Who are you to judge someone else’s servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind. ⁶Whoever regards one day as special does so to the Lord.

Whoever eats meat does so to the Lord, for they give thanks to God; and whoever abstains does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone.

⁸If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. ⁹For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God’s judgment seat. ¹¹It is written:

“‘As surely as I live,’ says the Lord,
‘every knee will bow before me;
every tongue will acknowledge God.’”

¹²So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

Sermon: How to Promote Peace in the Family

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: It Is Well with My Soul

Responsive Litany (I John 4:7-12)

Pastor: Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

People: **Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.**

Pastor: This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

People: **This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.**

Unison: **Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.**

† Benediction

Welcome, Announcements and Prayers

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Dr. Eric Roth, Director of Music

To our visitors: We hope our worship enables you to draw near to God through Christ Jesus, and that you feel welcome here among us. Please sign the guest book in the narthex and allow us to greet you. Our normal fellowship time after the service has been postponed due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

In Need of Prayer

Janet Young, in rehab
Bunny Rector, surgery **Monday**
Kent's sister Lori
Kelly, Pat Grad's daughter
George Donoian and family
Carolyn Krueger's son, Chuck
Pat Grad's grandson, Luke age 12
Gail Nastwold
Jen Freese and family
Brett Johnson, Nancy's son
Lyndsay, daughter of the Sharpes
Don Rende's brother, Bob
David, friend of Cindy Taaffee
Bruce, friend of the Clay family
Jim, Gary, Marion, friends of Szczepaneks
Linda Szczepanek
Cody, grandson of Carolyn Krueger
Cheri Boone's sister's family
Bruce Hartley, employment
Colleen, friend of Kelly Rende
Nancy, friend of Doaks

In Need of Prayer

Patrick, Linda Davis' cousin, hospitalized
Marie Johnson, Linda & Ray Johnson's daughter
Natalie, Pam's sister
Keely & Josh, daughter/son-in-law of Linda Johnson
Julie, dear friend of Chernenkoffs
Alberta Weaver, at home
Reginia Higgs
Avery, niece of Teresa Lisowki
Carol, Bev Thompson's cousin
Tracy, friend of Bunny Rector
Andrew, friend of Bodnars, Guillain-Barré syndrome
Randy, friend of Bodnars
Tim, cancer, nephew of Janet Young
Lauren, niece of Ron Lisowski
Kelly Rende's friend Rich, family care burden
Carolyn Schmierer, assisted living
Yvonne Ray, assisted living
Unbelieving children in our families
Kelly Rende, grief
Family of Anna, died complications of childbirth
Brenda's neighbors, recent death in family

Please update this list as appropriate by alerting Bev Thompson.

Audio Sermons can be heard on the church website: <http://christ-presbyterianchurch.org>

Monthly need: \$17,083.0

Giving to general fund last week: \$4,255

Giving to general fund in this month: \$4,255.

Giving to mortgage in September: \$50

Our Military: Justin, deployed to Qatar; Metzners' grandson; Bryan, relative of Teresa Lisowski, deployed to Iraq.

Pray for God's protection of girls/women and intervention to stop the human sex trafficking in our state.

Heidelberg Catechism: Q. 110. What does God forbid in the eighth commandment? **A.** He forbids not only outright theft and robbery, punishable by law. But in God's sight theft also includes cheating and swindling our neighbor by schemes made to appear legitimate, such as: inaccurate measurements of weight, size, or volume; fraudulent merchandising; counterfeit money; excessive interest; or any other means forbidden by God.



The congregational meeting for the purpose of electing church officers will be held on September 27, 2020, following our worship service. Members are reminded to attend this important part of the life of our church. Candidates for officers include John Dellinger, Cindy Taaffee for elder; Donna Whiting, Benita Puzzuoli for deacon; and Linda Davis for Trustee.

Please remember to wear your mask or a face shield, and of course, maintain the six-foot distance guideline.

If you are not able to come, we remind you that *Audio Sermons* are available on our website: www.christ-presbyterianchurch.org In addition, Dr. McGuire's video sermons will premier Sunday mornings at 10:30 on Facebook and YouTube. Links will usually sent on Saturday.

The Ladies' Bible Study will begin to meet again, this time in the Fellowship Hall to be socially distant. The first day will be Tuesday, September 15, at 10 am. The topic will be Minor Prophets, Book Two. Please speak with Judy Dellinger if you would like a guide (\$10).

Praying Around the World

The churches in China and India, continue to be under increasing stress and persecution, especially pastors. **Christians are being killed for their faith in India.**

African and South American countries are experiencing severe pandemic effects w/limited resources. Indian and Nigerian Christians are under intense persecution.

CDC (Central Detroit Christian) ministry to this neighborhood has been deeply limited, yet the needs have increased. Unemployment means no ability to pay rent, feed their children, etc. Pray for wisdom and resources for Lisa Johanan and her team.

Pray for our missionaries: the Fogelbachs, Tim North, Marcus Liew, Enrique Cepeda, as well as Lisa Johanan.